

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

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INFO AMCONSUL CAPETOWN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

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AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

USUN NEW YORK 1184

UNCLAS LUSAKA 0425

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

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SUBJECT: ZAMBIAN GOVERNMENT PAPER ALLEGES: "MUZOREWA, SMITH IN
SETTELEMENT TALKS"

REF: (A) LUSAKA 0312

SUMMARY: THE HEADLINE: "MUZOREWA, SMITH IN SETTLEMENT TALKS"
DOMINATED FRONT PAGE OF FEBRUARY 15 ZAMBIAN DAILY MAIL. BASED ON
A NKOMO ANC PRESS RELEASE FROM SALISBURY A MAIL STORY ALLEGES
MUZOREWA AND ZUPO LEADER, CHIRAU, ARE INVOLVED IN TALKS WITH SMITH
WHICH HAVE REACHED "AN ADVANCED STAGE". SPOKESMAN FOR THE NEWLY
FORMED PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT SAID AN INTERNAL SETTLEMENT WOULD BE
"AN EXPENSIVE POLITICAL JOKE". ANC PUBLICITY SECRETARY CHARGED
MUZOREWA WANTS TO BECOME PRIME MINISTER IN ORDER TO RECRUIT
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BLACK PEOPLE AS REINFORCEMENTS FOR SMITH'S ARMY. DAILY MAIL
EDITORIAL WARNS UANC AND RHODESIAN BLACKS "TO KEEP AWAY FROM
A DECEITFUL MARRIAGE OF CONVENIENCE WITH THE RACISTS".
END SUMMARY

1. IN A PRESS STATEMENT ISSUED FOLLOWING A DAY-LONG MEETING
OF THE NKOMO ANC IN SALISBURY, MUZOREWA AND ZUPO LEADER, CHIEF

CHIRAU WERE ACCUSED OF TAKING PART IN TALKS WITH SMITH THAT HAD REACHED "AN ADVANCED STAGE". ANC PRESS RELEASE ALSO SAID SMITH'S PLANS FOR AN INTERNAL SETTLEMENT WERE MEANINGLESS; MUZOREWA AND CHIRAU REPRESENTED "USELESS GROUPS THAT CANNOT END THE WAR" AND ATTACKED SMITH'S PLAN FOR A REFERENDUM TO ESTABLISH WHICH BLACK LEADER COMMANDS MAJORITY SUPPORT WITHIN RHODESIA.

2. THE NEWLY FORMED PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT (PM) FOLLOWING A MEETING OF ITS 36 MAN NATIONAL EXECUTIVE ALSO ISSUED A STATEMENT OPPOSING AN INTERNAL SETTLEMENT. PM'S SPOKESMAN, NELSON MAWEMA, NOTED THAT A SETTLEMENT INVOLVING MUZOREWA AND CHIEF CHIRAU WOULD BE "AN EXPENSIVE POLITICAL JOKE" AND CALLED FOR AN IMMEDIATE RESUMPTION OF TALKS WITH THE PEOPLE'S LIBERATION MOVEMENTS OF RHODESIA.

3. NKOMO ANC PUBLICITY SECRETARY, WILLIE MUSARURWA, IN SEPARATE REMARKS SAID THAT CURRENT SETTLEMENT TALKS WERE A CONTINUATION OF TALKS HELD BETWEEN SMITH'S SPECIAL ADVISERS AND MUZOREWA IN GENEVA. MUSARURWA ACCUSED MUZOREWA OF WANTING TO BE PRIME MINISTER SO AS TO USE HIS INFLUENCE TO RECRUIT BLACK PEOPLE TO REINFORCE SMITH'S ARMY AGAINST THE GUERRILLAS. ACCORDING TO MUSARURWA, MUZOREWA HAS NO MONEY PROBLEMS, HE IS BACKED BY THE WHITE INDUSTRIALISTS IN RHODESIA AND PLANS TO START A NEWSPAPER. MUZOREWA IS SO COMMITTED TO THIS PLAN THAT IT WILL BE DIFFICULT FOR HIM TO CHANGE HIS MIND EVEN WHEN HE FINDS OUT THAT INTERNAL TALKS WITH SMITH ARE NOT POPULAR.

4. DAILY MAIL EDITORIAL FEBRUARY 15 IS NOT SURPRISED MUZOREWA IS ENGAGED IN TALKS WITH SMITH ON AN INTERNAL SETTLEMENT AND UNCLASSIFIED

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BELIEVES THAT IT WAS BECAUSE SMITH WAS SURE OF MUZOREWA'S WILLINGNESS TO COOPERATE THAT HE WENT TO VORSTER AND ASKED HIS SUPPORT FOR THE INTERNAL OPTION. EDITORIAL REPEATS ANC SPOKESMAN'S CHARGE THAT MUZOREWA IS SEEKING THE PRIME MINISTERSHIP TO RECRUIT BLACKS FOR SMITH FORCES (PARA 3). THOSE OUTSIDE OF RHODESIA, WHO SUPPORT MUZOREWA ARE ENTITLED TO, BUT A QUISLING IN POWER WILL NOT END THE WAR. SUPPORT OF MUZOREWA IS AT THE EXPENSE OF GENUINE INDEPENDENCE OF THE PEOPLE OF RHODESIA. IT WOULD BE IN THE LONG TERM INTERESTS OF THE BLACK PEOPLE OF RHODESIA AND MUZOREWA FOR HIM "TO KEEP AWAY FROM ANY DECEITFUL MARRIAGE OF CONVENIENCE WITH THE RACISTS". THE FRONTLINE COUNTRIES ARE ADVISED THAT THEY MUST WORRY ABOUT THE SUPPORTERS OF THE UANC IN THEIR COUNTRIES BECAUSE THEY WILL CREATE SECURITY PROBLEMS OF GREAT MAGNITUDE (REFTEL). WHETHER A SMITH-MUZOREWA ALLIANCE COMES TO PASS OR NOT IS IMMATERIAL BECAUSE IT WON'T "INFLUENCE WHICH WAY THE WAR WILL GO". MUZOREWA WILL SOON FIND HIMSELF IN "THE POLITICAL LIMBO OF RHODESIAN POLITICS".

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